



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT  
1114 SOUTH OAK STREET  
LA CRESCENT, MN 55947-1660

TO: Shoreline Permit Holders on Lake Onalaska  
DATE: June 12, 2019  
SUBJECT: Bank Stabilization Activities on Government-Owned Shoreline

The prolonged high water on the Mississippi River this spring has resulted in increased amounts of shoreline erosion along Lake Onalaska. A number of adjacent property owners with shoreline dock permits have inquired as to the permit approval process for implementing shoreline repairs. The following is brief summary / criteria for determining permit requirements.

Bank stabilization activity necessary for erosion repair or prevention, may be covered by a Corps Regulatory Nation Wide Permit if the following criteria can be met:

1. The activity is no more than 500' in length
2. The activity will not exceed an average of 1 cubic yard per running foot
3. The activity doesn't involve discharges into special aquatic site such as wetlands

The shoreline is owned in fee title by the Corps of Engineers and managed from the La Crescent Office. The Brice Prairie portion has been leased to the Town of Onalaska, who manages shoreline use (dock) permits. The French Island shoreline is directly managed by the Corps Environmental Section. For both areas, the Corps needs to issue permission prior to any rip rap or other erosion control activity taking place. Please contact Ray Marinan at 651-290-5896 to discuss a potential project.

Dredging to reclaim lost shoreline/bank material is covered by a separate nationwide permit, but only allows dredging of no more than 25 cubic yards from below the ordinary high water mark. If more material needs to be removed, a regulatory permit will be required. Kerrie Hauser is the Corps Regulatory contact in the La Crescent office and can be reached at 651-290-5903

Addition information can be found on the Corps St. Paul District web page at:

<https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>

The above information is valid only for the Corps of Engineers requirements. Local and state agencies may also require permits, such as La Crosse County Zoning and/or WI DNR.

Randall Urich  
Environmental Section Manager